



**Lewis and Clark County Behavioral Health Local Advisory Council**

**Intermountain Conference Room**

**Tuesday, January 7, 2020, 11:30 a.m.**

**Mission Statement:** The purpose of the LAC is to assist in the improvement of Lewis and Clark County public behavioral health services and to review and make recommendations about services to the Lewis and Clark County Commissioners.

**Purpose:** A time to learn and share

**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order and Reading of the Mission Statement and Purpose**

Matt Furlong called the meeting to order at 11:30 am and announced agenda changes aimed to keep the meeting timely.

Members in Attendance: Matt Furlong (Chair), Drenda Niemann (Vice Chair), Vee Yang (Coordinator), Brandy Vail, Lt. Cory Bailey, Brian Coplin, Shane Gabriel, Kim Gardner, Erick Griffin, Jess Hegstrom, Katie Jerstad, Gary Mihelish, Emily Munn, Jennifer Preble, Wynn Randall, David Roberts, Bob Stewart, Todd Tecca, Jill Steeley

Guest in Attendance: Adrian Sagan, Theresa Ortega, Ara Babcock, Mariah Ramirez, Rebecca Hargis, Taylor Dinsdale, Dennis Nyland, Mary Ann Dunwell, Dan O'Malley, Erin Olson, Alex Holter, Jillian DeAmicis- Danesi, Berkley Conrad

Staff in Attendance: Vee Yang

**2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – December 3, 2019**

- 3. County Transition Update:** Drenda Niemann gave the group updates regarding the Crisis Response Team RFP process. Drenda passed along word that Kellie McBride had intentions of inviting a LAC member to be present for the CRT proposal review scheduled for the morning of January 16. Drenda asked that if anyone was interested to please contact her after the meeting. Regarding the jail team Drenda stated that the county posted recruitments for the detention center staffing and Jillian DeAmicis-Danesi shared that that the application time had now closed and the county was actively interviewing applicants. Brandy Vail and Jennifer Preble gave an update and a plan of action for the Journey Home transition of services but reminded the group of how difficult it would be to make the transition because of the obstacles around receiving the proper licensures to facilitate a 24-hour crisis home. Drenda updated the group that the Our Place RFP would close on January 21<sup>st</sup> and would be reviewed in early February. Theresa Ortega gave an update on the work Good Samaritans was doing to keep the Our Place doors open. Theresa made an art supply donation request. Matt Furlong finished the conversation by speaking on the importance of having the voice of the LAC represented in the RFP language for these services as well as LAC members participating in the RFP review process.
- 4. Quick Workgroup Reports**

**Workgroup Three- Gaps in Service** (Group consist of three sub-groups)

**Crisis Intercept Mapping**

Dennis Nyland stated that the next meeting would be on January 9. In that meeting they would be discussing the Washington Safer Homes Project and New Hampshire Firearms Safety Collation Gun Shop Project. He also announced that they would be doing a video conference with the New Hampshire Firearms Safety Collation member Alain Frank so the group could have an opportunity to ask questions and gain more insight to the program. Jess Hegstrom pointed out the importance of the message being about safer homes and not picking on the firearm community in order to better engage the firearm community in a more approachable manor.

**211**

Mariah Ramirez spoke on behalf of Emily McVey. Mariah stated that United Way was working on breaking down what 211 looked like for a consumer using the website to help make the interface as efficient and user friendly as possible. The group was also updated on the progress with Voices of Hope in Great Falls being trained to take Helena calls and better direct consumers to resources.

**Peer to Peer Group**

Matt Furlong shared that the Peer to Peer group had about 20 people on the mailing list and about 8 participants attending regularly This group has been working on a pilot program to legitimize a peer support program at the VA starting with a volunteer position

and moving into paid position. Matt stated that this group helped aid workgroup 2 in finishing the Behavioral Health Mental Health Resource Guide. He also spoke about supporting Handle with Care and Transportation with Dignity.

### **Updates from Other Mental Health Groups**

#### **A. Lewis and Clark County Suicide Prevention**

Jess Hegstrom shared that Lewis and Clark Suicide Prevention would be accepting an intern for year 2 of the Military Strong Campaign. They will be putting together a discussion guide after hearing from the Western Montana Mental Health staff about how to find tools in the information that was provided. 892 people in our county were trained in a variety of programs over the last quarter. Jess announced that the CDC is releasing information on a study they did on Man Therapy and that the findings have been overwhelmingly positive. She looks forward to sharing that information with the group soon.

#### **B. Law Enforcement Mental Health Committee**

No updates were made.

#### **C. Central Service Area Authority (CSAA)**

CSAA is working on a strategic plan to make improvements across the state. They are also working on peer support, Handle with Care, and Transportation with Dignity.

### **5. Agency Updates and Public Comment**

Mariah Ramirez asked for volunteers to get trained to be tax preparers for the Free Tax Help program and volunteers to help distribute Point and Time Surveys.

Erick Griffin announced that on February 13<sup>th</sup> Helena NAMI will be starting a 12-week Family to Family class. Group will take place on Thursday from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Jess Hegstrom announced an ASIST training at Fort Harrison February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

Rebecca Hargis reminded collation leaders to register for the Collation Gathering on February 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

Gary Mihelish announced that the Child and Families Interim Committee is meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at the capital.

### **6. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:24 pm